



File Code: 2210/2230-3
Date: April 30, 2009

Wade Stephens
Flying S. Ranch
P.O. Box 3
Lonetree, WY 82936

Dear Wade,

This letter is in reference to the annual meeting you and Aaron Zobell had on March 10th, 2009, in Manila concerning your grazing on the Commissary Park Allotment. This letter will serve as your 2009 Operating Instructions and will become part of your permit as provided for in Part 1, Item 3 and Part 2, Item 8(a) of your of your term grazing permit.

Please note situations may develop during the grazing season which you feel may require changes to these instructions. If you feel this becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, contact Aaron Zobell and obtain approval before initiating changes or deviating from these instructions. Your 2009 operating instructions are as follows:

Commissary Park Allotment

<u>Numbers</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Date</u>
120	West	July 6 – August 10
	East	August 11 – September 15

Only livestock on the allotment branded according to the State of Utah Certificate of Registration which you provided us will be allowed to graze on the allotment. Confirmation of payment through the “lock box” process must be received before your livestock will be allowed to graze on national forest lands.

You indicated that you would trail your cattle up Birch Creek to get to your allotment and overnight if possible at Commissary Park, and only if absolutely necessary at Willow Park. The next day you will finish trailing your cattle into the West unit where you will begin grazing.

Utilization benchmarks for the Commissary Park Allotment are presented below in table 1.0. Utilization will generally be monitored at key areas of the allotment. Key areas are those areas of the allotment most preferred by livestock and are typically grazed first and receive the most concentrated use (e.g. Commissary Park, Willow Park, Middle Fork of Sheep Creek, etc.) Cattle will be moved from the West unit to the East unit when utilization benchmarks have been met in key areas. Cattle will be removed from national forest lands when utilization benchmarks are met in the East unit or by the off date for the allotment whichever comes first. It is your responsibility to ensure the utilization benchmarks shown in table 1.0 are not exceeded. Willow Park may be used as a gathering location at the end of the season if cattle are successfully kept out of this area during the time cattle are on the allotment. However, end of season use at



Willow Park should generally be light to moderate at a few areas and in no case should utilization benchmarks presented in table 1.0 be exceeded. The above proposed grazing schedule and utilization benchmarks listed below are per the 2009 Commissary Park Allotment Management Plan. Every effort must be taken to completely remove cattle off the National Forest by the scheduled off date. If it requires three days of riding to gather your cattle, then you should start riding three days prior to your scheduled off date.

Table 1.0 Utilization Benchmarks for the Commissary Park Allotment-by unit

*Utilization Benchmarks	West Unit	**East Unit
Utilization-by key species	<50%	<50%
Residual Stubble Height	>4 inches	>4 inches

*Livestock will be moved to the next scheduled unit or off of National Forest lands whenever a utilization benchmark is reached. **Use at Willow Park should be generally light to moderate at a few areas.

Equal utilization of the range is the objective. This requires riding and salting be properly conducted throughout the entire grazing season. Rotate your salting areas during the grazing season and from year to year. Place your salt in good forage producing areas where the cattle do not go by preference. Do not place your salt next to water, roads, trails, or in open meadows. Cattle need to be kept in their appropriate units, properly distributed within those units, and moved from unit to unit as needed. It is especially important that cattle be kept in the unit they are supposed to be in and an even distribution of your cattle be maintained while in an unit, since any area reaching proper utilization means it is time to move into the next unit or to come home. Please continue to pay particular attention to keeping your cattle off of the Spirit Lake Road and away from Spirit Lake Lodge.

Maintenance of all your improvements must be done one week before cattle enter the allotment and maintenance needs to be completed to the standards listed in your permit. Completing your maintenance responsibilities one week before your on date will allow Aaron time to inspect your improvements and address any concerns before your cattle enter the allotment. Other item(s) discussed during the permittee meeting are as follows:

- Salting in Willow Park and Commissary Park: I understand salting has occurred in Commissary Park at an old salting ground historically used by sheep. This area should no longer be used as a salting ground. In addition, other parks located within the Commissary Park Allotment should not have salt placed in them. Instead please salt as directed in this letter and as directed in Part 3 of your term grazing permit.
- Forest Service Maintenance of Trails #1022 and #1022A: These trails were logged out last year. However, further maintenance of these trails may be required to successfully bring your livestock on the allotment, move between units, and bring them off of the allotment. I strongly suggest you be ready to do any trail maintenance necessary to do this. Please remember any trail work leading from Willow Park to Commissary Park needs to be done leaving a trail width of less than 40 inches. This is critical to help prevent unauthorized ATV use.

Please keep track of the dates, numbers and any other facts that may be pertinent to your grazing on the allotment this year and let Aaron know as they occur. Note these items on the Grazing Use Record form attached below and return them to Aaron by the 31st of December.

We also need your help to control noxious weeds. By removing musk thistle seed heads before they flower and then cutting down the plant at its base, the spread of this plant can be controlled. Please let Aaron know of any new noxious weed infestations so we can keep them from becoming established. We are especially concerned about Dyer's Woad and any other "new" weeds.

Thank you for your efforts in the management of this allotment. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Aaron Zobell at 435-781-5268.

Sincerely,

ROWDY MUIR
Acting District Ranger

Enclosure
2009 Grazing Use Record

2009 GRAZING USE RECORD
FLAMING GORGE RANGER DISTRICT

This form should be completed in detail, signed, and returned immediately following the grazing season to this office. Use back of sheet if necessary.

PERMITTEE _____

ALLOTMENT _____ YEAR _____

ACTUAL USE

UNIT IN ORDER GRAZED	TOTAL LIVESTOCK NUMBERS	DATE ENTERED	DATE LEFT	DATE <u>ALL</u> LIVESTOCK REMOVED FROM UNIT	NOTES

NOXIOUS WEEDS

SPECIES	LOCATION	OTHER

OTHER

Improvements maintained and/or visited

Improvements in need of repair

NOTES

SIGNATURE

DATE